

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 609 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit a court from convicting a defendant, finding a special circumstance true, or using a fact in aggravation based on the uncorroborated testimony of an in-custody informant.

This bill would enact a broad solution to a perceived problem that arises in very few criminal cases. In-custody informant testimony is disfavored and therefore rarely used. When that kind of testimony is necessary, current criminal procedures provide adequate safeguards against its misuse. Consequently, this bill is unnecessary.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger